FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Assessor John R. Noguez urges property owners to seek tax relief from wind storm damage

Los Angeles, CA – Los Angeles County Assessor **John R. Noguez** today urged property owners who may have been affected by the recent wind storms to contact his office as soon as possible for information about potential tax relief if related damage amounts to \$10,000 or more, including destruction to chimneys or structures by falling trees or branches.

"My office is ready to assist the community to obtain tax relief information for those property owners who have suffered damage or loss by the wind storms." Assessor Noguez stated, "State law allows home and business owners to qualify for a temporary reduction in assessed value. Reassessment could mean a lower tax bill for the period between damage and repair or rebuilding."

Noguez added that Section 170 of the California Revenue and Taxation Code requires the **application form** to be submitted within one year of the date of damage. Photographs and any other documentation, such as repair estimates, should accompany the form.

Additional information may be obtained by calling the Assessor's Main Office in the county Hall of Administration at (213) 974-8658 or district offices in Sylmar (818) 833-6000; Signal Hill (562) 256-1701; Culver City (310) 665-5300; South El Monte (626) 258-6001, or Lancaster (661) 940-6700.

Misfortune/calamity forms are available on the Assessor's Internet website at http://assessor.lacounty.gov for property owners to fill in, print and then submit by mail.

John R. Noguez has over 25 years of appraisal experience in the Los Angeles County Assessor's Office and was elected Assessor in November 2010 with nearly one million votes. The constitutional duty of the Assessor is to fairly and accurately appraise property. The Office of the Assessor maintains a property roll of 2.4 million homes and businesses that has a gross total appraised valuation of over \$1.1 trillion dollars in 2011.

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